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BIRCH STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT AND DESIGN APPLICATIONS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
0179-0164P

PLEASE NOTE:
YOU MUST
COMPLETE THE
FOLLOWING:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:*

Insert Title

Sample Support

Check Box If
Appropriate -
For Use Without
Specification
Attached

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☐ was filed on _____ as United
States Application Number _____ or
PCT International Application Number PCT/EP99/01607
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months (six months for designs) prior to this application, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns, except as follows.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Insert Priority
Information
(if appropriate)

			Priority	Claimed
<u>198 10 499.5</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>March 11, 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		
<u>199 02 309.3</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>January 21, 1999</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)
_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)

All Foreign Applications, if any, for any Patent or Inventor's Certificate Filed ~~More Than 12 Months~~ (6 Months for Designs) Prior To The Filing Date of This Application:

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing (Month/Day/Year)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status — patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Application Number)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status — patented, pending, abandoned)

*NOTE: Must be completed.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and/or an international application based on this application and to transact all business with the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith in connection with the resulting patent based on instructions received from the entity who first sent the application papers to the attorneys identified below, unless the inventor(s) or assignee provides said attorneys with a written notice to the contrary:

RAYMOND C. STEWART (Reg. No. 21,066)
 JOSEPH A. KOLASCH (Reg. No. 22,463)
 JAMES M. SLATTERY (Reg. No. 28,380)
 CHARLES GORENSTEIN (Reg. No. 29,271)
 LEONARD R. SVENSSON (Reg. No. 30,330)
 MARC S. WEINER (Reg. No. 32,181)
 JOE MCKINNEY MUNCY (Reg. No. 32,334)
 C. JOSEPH FARACI (Reg. No. 32,350)

TERRELL C. BIRCH (Reg. No. 19,382)
 ANTHONY L. BIRCH (Reg. No. 26,122)
 BERNARD L. SWEENEY (Reg. No. 24,448)
 MICHAEL K. MUTTER (Reg. No. 29,680)
 GERALD M. MURPHY, JR. (Reg. No. 28,977)
 TERRY L. CLARK (Reg. No. 32,644)
 ANDREW D. MEIKLE (Reg. No. 32,868)
 ANDREW F. REISH (Reg. No. 33,443)

PLEASE NOTE:
 YOU MUST
 COMPLETE THE
 FOLLOWING:

Send Correspondence to: **BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH AND BIRCH, LLP**

P.O. Box 747
 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
 Telephone: (703) 205-8000
 Facsimile: (703) 205-8050

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of First or Sole Inventor:
 Insert Name of Inventor
 Insert Date This Document Is Signed
 Insert Residence
 Insert Citizenship

GIVEN NAME	FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Ralf-Peter	Peters	<i>R-P Peters</i>	Sept. 5, 2000
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP	
51467 Bergisch-Gladbach, Germany DEX		German	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)			
Zum Waschbach 23a, 51467 Bergisch-Gladbach, Germany			

Full Name of Second Inventor, if any:
 see above

GIVEN NAME	FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Nezih	Unal	<i>Nezih Unal</i>	Sept. 15, 2000
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP	
42115 Wuppertal, Germany DEX		German	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)			
Krummacher Str. 125, 42115 Wuppertal, Germany			

Full Name of Third Inventor, if any:
 see above

GIVEN NAME	FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Dirk Klaus	Osterloh	<i>Dirk Osterloh</i>	05.09.00
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP	
44229 Dortmund, Germany DEX		German	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)			
Schneiderstrasse 7, 44229 Dortmund, Germany			

Full Name of Fourth Inventor, if any:
 see above

GIVEN NAME	FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Herbert	Backes	<i>Herbert Backes</i>	4/9/2000
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP	
53424 Remagen-Unkelbach, Germany DEX		German	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)			
Elligstrasse 12, 53424 Remagen-Unkelbach, Germany			

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any:
 see above

GIVEN NAME	FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)			

Note: Must be completed - date this document is signed.

Applicant or Patentee: Ralf-Peter PETERS et al.
Serial or Patent No.: 09 33,910
filed or Issued: September 11, 2000
For: SAMPLE SUPPORT

Attorney's
Docket No:
0179-0164P

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN **microParts Gesellschaft fuer Mikrostrukturtechnik mbH**
ADDRESS OF CONCERN **Hauert 7, 44227 Dortmund, Germany**

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled

Sample Support

by inventor **Ralf-Peter Peters et al.** described in

- ☐ the specification filed herewith
☐ application serial no. _____, filed _____
☐ patent no. _____, issued _____

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). *NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME **MERLIN Gesellschaft fuer mikrobiologische Diagnostika mbH**
ADDRESS **Kleinstrasse 14, 53332 Bornheim-Hersel, Germany**

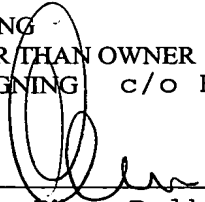
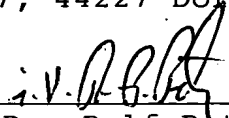
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☒ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that I understand the English language.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING
TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING c/o Hauert 7, 44227 Dortmund, Germany

SIGNATURE   DATE Sept. 07, 2000
 Dr. Jörg Pelka Dr. Ralf-Peter Peters
 Managing Director Head of Microfluidics

Applicant or Patentee: Ralf-Peter PETERS et al.
Serial or Patent No.: 09 3, 910
filed or Issued: September 11, 2000
For: SAMPLE SUPPORT

Attorney's
Docket No:
0179-0164P

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN **MERLIN Gesellschaft fuer mikrobiologische Diagnostik mbH**
ADDRESS OF CONCERN **Kleinstrasse 14, 53332 Bornheim- Hersel, Germany**

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled

Sample Support

by inventor **Ralf-Peter Peters et al.** described in

- ☐ the specification filed herewith
☐ application serial no. _____, filed _____
☐ patent no. _____, issued _____

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). *NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME **microParts Gesellschaft fuer Mikrostrukturtechnik mbH**
ADDRESS **Hauert 7, 44227 Dortmund, Germany**

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☒ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that I understand the English language.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING **Herbert Backes**
TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER **General Manager**
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING **c/o Kleinstrasse 14, 53332 Bornheim-Hersel, Germany**

SIGNATURE *Herbert Backes*

DATE *4/9/2000*

Applicant or Patentee: Ralf Peter PETERS et al.
Serial or Patent No.: 09/000910
filed or Issued: September 11, 2000
For: SAMPLE SUPPORT

Attorney's
Docket No:
0179-0164P

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled

Sample Support

described in

- ☐ the specification filed herewith
☐ application serial no. _____, filed _____
☐ patent no. _____, issued _____

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ no such person, concern, or organization
☒ persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME **microParts Gesellschaft fuer
Mikrostrukturtechnik mbH**
ADDRESS **Hauert 7
44227 Dortmund, Germany**

**MERLIN Gesellschaft fuer
mikrobiologische Diagnostika mbH**
**Kleinstrasse 14
53332 Bornheim-Hersel, Germany**

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☒ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that I understand the English language.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.


Ralf-Peter Peters


Nezih Ünal


Dirk-Klaus Osterloh


Herbert Backes

Date

Sept. 5, 2000

Date

Sept. 15, 2000

Date

Sept. 5, 2000

Date

4/9/2000